EXPLOSIVES CODES, ABBREVIATIONS, NAMES & MIXTURES

To write the name and type of explosive on a projectile or grenade without the use of abbreviations or codes would be cumbersome to say the least. The following table show some of the names and abbreviations for explosives that have been used or are still in use for marking ammunition items.

NAME	COMPOSITION	CODE
AMMONAL	65% AMMONIUM NITRATE 17% ALUMINIUM POWDER 15% TNT 3% CHARCOAL	A
AMATOL	40% AMMONIUM NITRATE 60% TNT	AML 1
	50% AMMONIUM NITRATE 50% TNT	AML 2
	60% AMMONIUM NITRATE 40% TNT	AML 3
	70% AMMONIUM NITRATE 30% TNT	AML 4
	72% AMMONIUM NITRATE 28% TNT	AML 5
	80% AMMONIUM NITRATE 20% TNT	AML 6
AMATEX	51% AMMONIUM NITRATE 40% TNT 9% RDX	AMX 1
BARATOL	10% BARIUM NITRATE 90% TNT	BAR 1
	20% BARIUM NITRATE 80% TNT	BAR 2
BURROWITE	AMATOL ALUMINIUM	B
COMPOSITION A3	91% RDX 9% WAX	COMP A3
COMPOSITION A4	97% RDX 3% WAX	COMP A4
COMPOSITION A5	98.5% RDX 1.5% STEARIC ACID	COMP A5
COMPOSTION B	60% RDX 3% TNT 1% WAX	COMP B
COMPOSITION C	88.3% RDX 11.7% PLASICIZER	C1
COMPOSITION C2	78.7% RDX 21.3% PLASTICISER	C2
COMPOSITION C3	77% RDX 23% PLASTICISER	C3
COMPOSITION C4	91% RDX POLYISOBUTYLENE OIL ETHYL HEXYL	C4
COMPOSITION EXPLODING	TRINITRO-PHENYL-METHYL-NITRAMINE N-NITRO-N-METHYL-2,4,6-TRINITRANILINE	CE
CHEDDITE	79% POTASSIUM CHLORATE 5% CASTOR OIL 1% MONONITRO-NAPHTHALENE 15% DINITRO-TOLUENE (DNT)	
CYCLOTOL	60% RDX 40% TNT	
DEPTH BOMB EXPLOSIVE	40% TNT 21% RDX 21% NH_4NO_3 18% ALUMINIUM	DBX
DDNP	DIAZODINITROPHENOL	

NAME	COMPOSITION	CODE
DD	60% PICRIC ACID 40% DINITROPHENOL	
DUNNITE	THE USA NAME FOR EXP D	
EDC	70% HMX 24.75% TNT (GRADE 1) 4% RDX (GRADE 1) 1% BEESWAX	EDC
EDNATOL	60% HALEITE 40% TNT	
EXPLOSIVE D	AMMONIUM PICRATE	
HIGH BLAST EXPLOSIVE	40% RDX 38% TNT 17% ALUMINIUM 5% DESENSITISER	HBX 1
	31% RDX 29% TNT 35% ALUMINIUM 5% DESENSITISER	HBX 3
	45% RDX 30% TNT 20% ALUMINIUM 5% DESENSITISER	HBX 6
HALEITE		
HEXYL	HEXANITRODIPHENYLAMINE HEXANITE	
HIGH MELT EXPLOSIVE	CYCLOTETRAMETHYLENETETRANITRAMINE (HOWS THAT FOR A MOUTHFULL)	HMX
LYDDITE	PICRIC ACID	LYD
MAX 2	38% RDX 62% ALUMINIUM (DICHROMATED ATOMISED) 1.5% GRAPHITE	
MELINITE	PICRIC ACID PARAFFIN WAX	
MINOL	48% TNT (GRADE 1) 42% AMMONIUM NITRATE 10% ALUMINIUM POWDER	MN 1
	40% TNT (GRADE 1) 40% AMMONIUM NITRATE 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	MN 2
MINOLEX	20% AMMONIUM NITRATE 40% TNT (GRADE 1) 20% RDX 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	MX 1
MDPC	55% PICRIC ACID 35% DINITROPHENOL 10% TRINITROCRESOL	
METALBE		
METAL OXIDISED EXPLOSIVE	52.4% ALUMINIUM 5.8% RDX 3.9% TNT 35% AMMONIUM PERCHLORATE 1.9% CALCIUM STEARATE 1% GRAPHITE	MOX 2B
MMN	70% PICRIC ACID 30% MONONITRONAPHTHALENE	
MTTC	55% PICRIC ACID 35% TNT 10% DINITROPHENOL	
NITROLIT	AMMONIUM NITRATE TRI-NITRO-ANISOL	
OCTOL	75% HMX 25% TNT	OCT ?

NAME	COMPOSITION	CODE
PICRATOL	52% EXPLOSIVE D 48% TNT	
PICRIC ACID	TRINITROPHENOL LYDDITE (UK) MELINITE (FRA) SHIMOSE (JAP) PERTITE (ITAL)	
PLASIC BONDED EXPLOSIVE	90% RDX 10% PLASICISER	PBX (MAY BE A TYPE A/B)
PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE	88.3% RDX 11.7% PE OIL TYPE 1	PE 1
	88.5% RDX 11.5% PE OIL TYPE 2	PE 2
	87.7% RDX 10.5% SHELL MEX OIL 119 .6% LECITHIN 1.2% CARBON BLACK	PE 3
	87.7% RDX 6.2% SHELL MEX OIL 119 4.1% LIQUID PARAFFIN (G 1) .5% LECITHIN 1.5% CARBON BLACK	PE 3A
	80% PE 2 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	PE/A
	88% RDX GRADE 1 A 11% PLASICISER 1% PENTA ERYTHRITOL DIOLATE	PE 4
PETN	PENTAERYTHRITOLTETRA-NITRATE PENRITE	
PENTOLITE	50% PETN 50% RDX GRADE 1	PEN 1
	75% PETN 25% TNT	PEN 2
	25% PETN 75% TNT	PEN 3
	92% PETN 8% DESENSITISER 6.9% PARAFFIN WAX 1.% NITROCELLULOSE .1% LECITHIN	PEN/D
	93% PETN 7% DESENSITISER	PEN/D 2
RDX	CYCLOTRIMETHYLENE-TRINITRAMINE RESEARCH DEPT FORMULA X HEXOGEN (Germany) T4 (Italy) CYCLONITE (USA) 91% RDX GRADE 1,1A,B1 OR B1A 9% BEESWAX	RDX/BWX
	91% RDX GRADE 2 OR B2 9% BEESWAX	RDX/BWX 2
RDX/PWX	86% RDX GRADE 1A,B1 OR B1A 14% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/PWX 1
RDX/TNT	60% RDX GRADE 1A,B1, B1A 40% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 1
	60% RDX GRADE 1 40% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 1A
	60% RDX GRADE 1 40% TNT GRADE 1 .25% ¼ IN CHOPPED TERYLENE	RDX/TNT 1B
	60% RDX GRADE 2 OR B2 40% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 2
	55% RDX GRADE 1,B1 OR B1A 45% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 3

NAME	COMPOSITION	CODE
	55% RDX GRADE 1A 45% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 3A
	55% RDX GRADE 2 OR B2 45% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 4
	50% RDX GRADE 1A,B1 OR B1A 50% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 5
	50% RDX GRADE 2 OR B2 50% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 6
	40% RDX GRADE 1,1A,B1,B1A 60% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 7
	40% RDX GRADE 2 OR B2 60% TNT GRADE 1	RDX/TNT 8
RDX/WX6	86% RDX GRADE 1 OR 1A 14% WAX 6	RDX/WX6/1
	91% RDX GRADE 1 OR 1A 9% WAX6	RDX/WX6/2
	88% RDX GRADE 1 OR 1A 12% WAX 6	RDX/WX6/3
RDX/WX8	88% RDX GRADE 1 12% WAX 8	RDX/WX8/1
RDX/WX/AL	67.5% RDX GRADE 1 OR 1A 12.5% PARAFFIN WAX 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	RDX/AL 1
	68% RDX GRADE 1 OR 1A 12% PARAFFIN WAX 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	RDX/AL 2
SCHNEIDERITE	87.4% AMMONIUM NITRATE 12.6% DINITRO-NAPHTHALENE	
SEMTEX		
TETRAZENE	GUANYLNITROSAMINOGUANYLTET RAZENE	
TNT	TETRYTOL TETRYL TRINTROTOLUENE TROTYL (UK) TOLITE (FRA) SPRENGMUNITION-02 (GER)	
TNT GRADE 1		TNT 1
TNT GRADE 2		TNT 2
TNT 3	99% TNT 1% RDX	TNT 3
TNT/BWX	93% TNT GRADE 1 7% BEESWAX	TNT/BWX 1
TNT/CE	55% TNT GRADE 1 45% CE	TNT/CE 1
	70% TNT GRADE 1 30% CE	TNT/CE 2
	45% TNT GRADE 1 55% CE	TNT/CE 3
	60% TNT GRADE 1 40% CE	TNT/CE 60/40
TORPEX	45% RDX 37% TNT GRADE 1 18% ALUMINIUM POWDER	TX 1
	42% RDX 40% TNT GRADE 1 18% ALUMINIUM POWDER	TX 2
	TORPEX 2 + 5% DESENSITISER	TX 2A
	TORPEX 2 + CALCIUM CHLORIDE	TX 3
	20% RDX 55% TNT 25% ALUMINIUM POWDER 1% CARBON BLACK	TX 4

NAME	COMPOSITION	CODE
	20% RDX 55% TNT 25% ALUMINIUM POWDER .2% LECITHIN 2.5% CARBON BLACK 3% PARAFFIN WAX	TX 4A
	30% RDX 50% TNT 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER 1.25% CARBON BLACK	TX 5
	30% RDX 50% TNT 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER .2% LECITHIN 1.25% CARBON BLACK 3% PARAFFIN WAX	TX 5A
	20% RDX 50% TNT 30% ALUMINIUM POWDER .2% LECITHIN 1.5% CARBON BLACK 3% PARAFFIN WAX	TX 6A
	20% RDX 50% TNT 30% ALUMINIUM POWDER 1.5% CARBON BLACK	TX 6B
TRIMONITE	PICRIC ACID MONO-NITRONAPHTHALENE	
TRITONAL	80% TNT 20% ALUMINIUM POWDER	TL 1
	75% TNT 2.5% CARBON BLACK	TL 2
704 B	15% TNT GRADE 1 67.5% AMMONIUM NITRATE 16% ALUMINIUM POWDER .5% CALCIUM STEARATE 1% PARAFFIN WAX	704B
808	61.5% NITROGLYCERINE MONONITROTOLUENE STABILISER	808
823	NITROCELLULOSE NITROGLYCERINE DIBUTYL-PHTHALATE	
831	CE TNT	

As with all good cooks the chemical engineers are forever trying to come up with the very best possible mixture to carry out the intended task for their explosives. Therefore you will find many, many blends of explosives in all military systems. Naturally each country gives their explosives names to suit the linguistic tastes of the region. The list above is not complete but it is a fair sampling of explosive filling codes and names to be found on ammunition items.